

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4807

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BELFAST

UNCLAS DUBLIN 0872

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, EI

SUBJ: OPPOSITION LEADER LYNCH ENDORSES IRISH GOVERNMENT
STAND ON NORTHERN IRELAND

1. IN IMPORTANT STATEMENT TO IRISH DAIL JULY 4, FIANNA
FAIL LEADER JACK LYNCH GAVE FULL SUPPORT TO PRIME MINISTER
COSGRAVE'S POLICY OF SEEKING RECONCILIATION IN NORTHERN
IRELAND.

2. LYNCHSAID THAT, ON ASSUMPTION THERE WAS NO FUNDEMENTAL CHANGE
IN POLICY OF ASPIRATION FOR ULTIMATE REUNIFICATION, TWO IMMEDIATE
PRIORITIES WERE: 1) ENDING OF VIOLENCE AND RESTORATION OF PEACE IN
NORTHERN IRELAND; AND 2) REPLACING VIOLENCE BY POLITICAL PRO-
CESSES. LYNCH SAID "WE MUST DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO HELP
THE FORMATION AND WORKING OF AN ASSEMBLY IN NORTHERN IRELAND
ALONG THE LINES ENVISAGED IN THE BRITISH WHITE PAPER." LYNCH SAID
THAT, IF RECONCILIATION AND PEACE WERE TO BE ACHIEVED, IT WAS
ESSENTIAL THAT IRISH MAINTAIN UNIFIED APPROACH, THOUGH HE WARNED
AGAINST PEACE AT ANY PRICE.

3. LYNCH WAS RESPONDING TO BRIEF STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER
COSGRAVE ON HIS TALKS WITH BRITISH PRIME MINISTER HEATLH JULY 2.
COSGRAVE SAID HE HAD VALUABLE AND WIDE-RANGING EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON
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RESULTS OF NI ELECTIONS, POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS,
RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO PARTS OF IRELAND, AND MATTERS OF COMMON

INTEREST IN EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. COSGRAVE SAID HEATH TOLD HIM BRITISH ENVISAGE ENACTMENT OF NI CONSTITUTION BILL BY END JULY, FOLLOWED BY MEETING OF ASSEMBLY, AND EVENTUALLY BY SETTING UP OF EXECUTIVE FOR NORTH IN AUTUMN.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE CAVEAT ON ASPIRATIONS FOR ULTIMATE REUNIFICATION, WHICH IS VIEWED AS BOW TOWARD MORE MILITANT MEMBERS OF OPPOSITION AND WHICH ASPIRATION COSGRAVE HAS INDICATED HE SHARES, LYNCH STATEMENT IS IMPORTANT REITERATION OF BIPARTIANSHIP IN IRISH POLICY COMING SO IMMEDIATELY AFTER COSGRAVE'S BLACKROCK SPEECH, NI ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS, AND COSGRAVE'S VISIT TO LONDON AND 1900 CLUB SPEECH. MOORE

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